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INTELLIGENCER

East-West Institute Gives U.S. Jitters

DESPITE A RECENT WARNING by the C.I.A. that this country is sharing too much information with Soviet-bloc academics, a New York organization is planning a controversial new step toward East-West scholarly cooperation.

"We'll provide the first place where senior advisers to foreign-affairs and defense ministries in the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries can study and work on projects together," said Michael Neiditch, vice-president of the new Institute for East-

West Security Studies and a former aide to New York Representative Ben Rosenthal.

The institute, which opens in Manhattan this April, is being funded mostly by local philanthropists. Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia, and Romania will participate during the program's first year. The Soviet Union, which is expected to take part next year, is contributing 50,000 books to the institute's library.

"Oh, Jeez," sighed one State Department source.

"A year gives a guy from a Communist country an opportunity to do a lot of things besides sitting around and discussing pressing political and security issues."

According to Neiditch, some intelligence and State Department officials have gotten "very uptight" about the risks the institute presents. "But I told them that if we feel our system is superior, what do we have to be afraid of if we have six or seven people here to study?"

BY SHARON CHURCHER